

ALBERTA
VACATION PLANNER

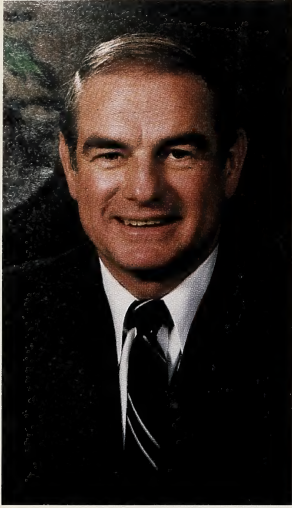


Alberta, in all her majesty

Canada 

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WELCOME TO T



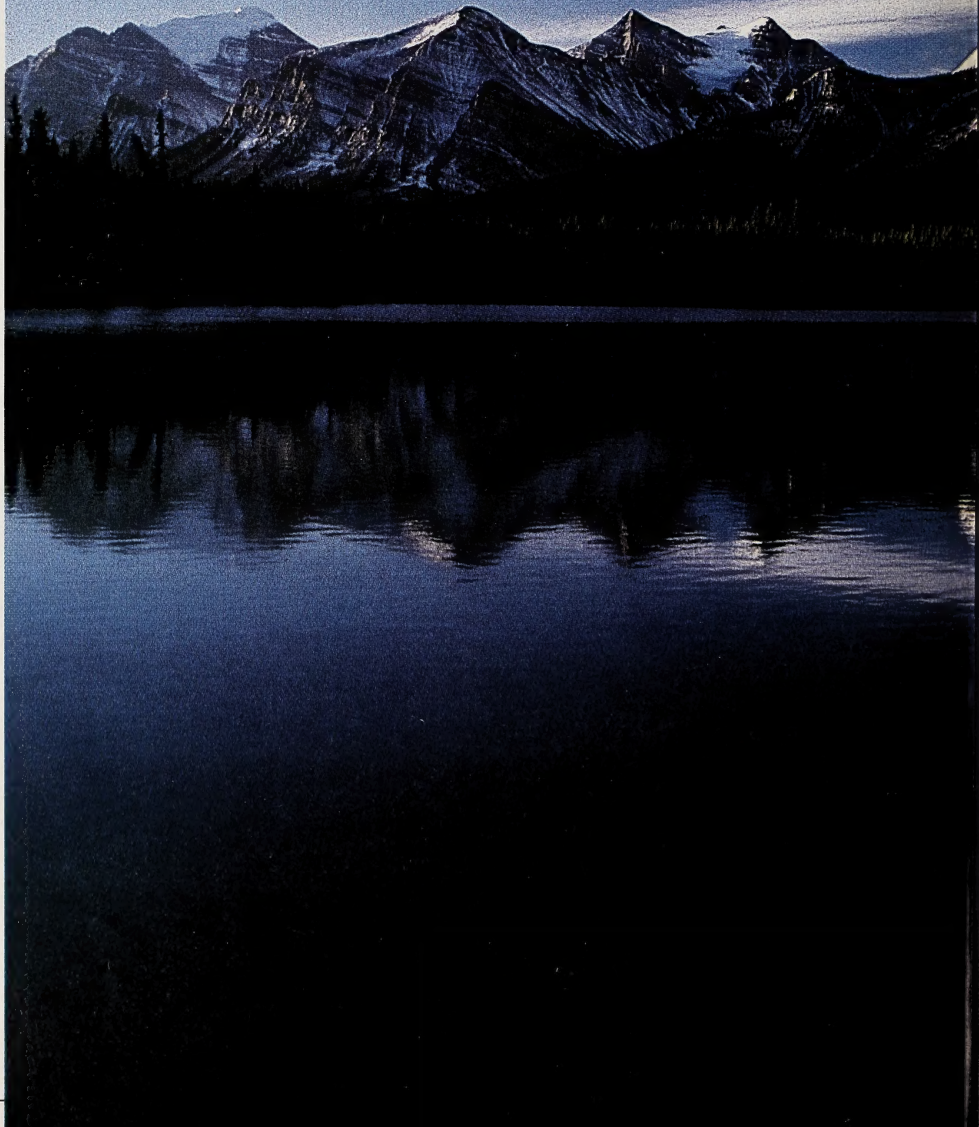
Alberta is truly a majestic province. You can see it in her beautiful landscape, in her rich cultural heritage, and in her friendly towns and modern, cosmopolitan cities.

In our province you will find a smiling welcome, helpful service and genuinely warm hospitality. It is the ideal place for a wonderful vacation. As you will see from the following pages you can pursue every possible recreation activity. The province is made for rest, relaxation, sightseeing and photography.

On behalf of all the people who will be doing their utmost to make your stay in Alberta the vacation of a lifetime, I invite you to come see Alberta in all her majesty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don R. Getty".

Honourable Don Getty
Premier of Alberta



EASTERN MOUNTAINS OF ALBERTA



Herbert Lake

As you will see, Alberta is a land of striking contrasts. Towering mountains hang like a curtain before prairies that stretch out as far as the eye can see. Renowned attractions and natural wonders offer promise to visitors thirsty for something different and exciting. And the simple charm of the Old West coexists with vibrant, modern cities.

It is a new land. Settled as recently as the late 1800's by peoples of many different cultures and ethnic backgrounds, Alberta has a colorful past, and a promising future.



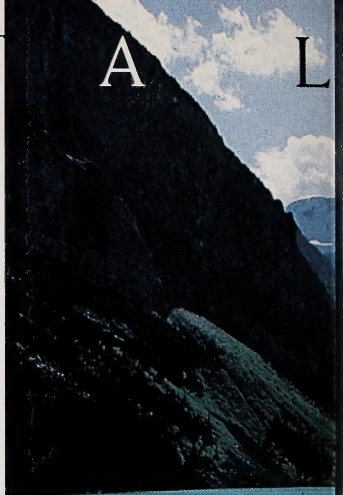
Canadian Finals Rodeo
Alberta is home to Canada's cowboys, many rodeos and celebrated western events. This prestigious Edmonton rodeo takes place annually in mid-November. ◀

MADE FOR VACATIONS

In Alberta you will find a tremendous range and variety of vacation possibilities. Spring, summer, fall or winter, each new season brings an almost endless agenda of unique things to



see and do. And vacations here offer exceptional value for money, with overnight prices ranging from Cdn \$8 a night serviced campgrounds to more than Cdn \$400 a night luxury hotel accommodation. They cater to all the budgets, and all tastes.



Set in 661,185 square km (255,285 square miles) of dramatic landscape, Alberta is Canada's fourth largest province. Bordered by the Canadian Rocky Mountains in the west, and the prairies in the east, it is home to over two million people, and some of the most majestic scenery on earth.



Indian heritage *Native dancing at Indian Village during the Calgary Stampede. ▶*

Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology *Alberta is dinosaur country, and site of some of the world's most significant fossil finds. ▶*

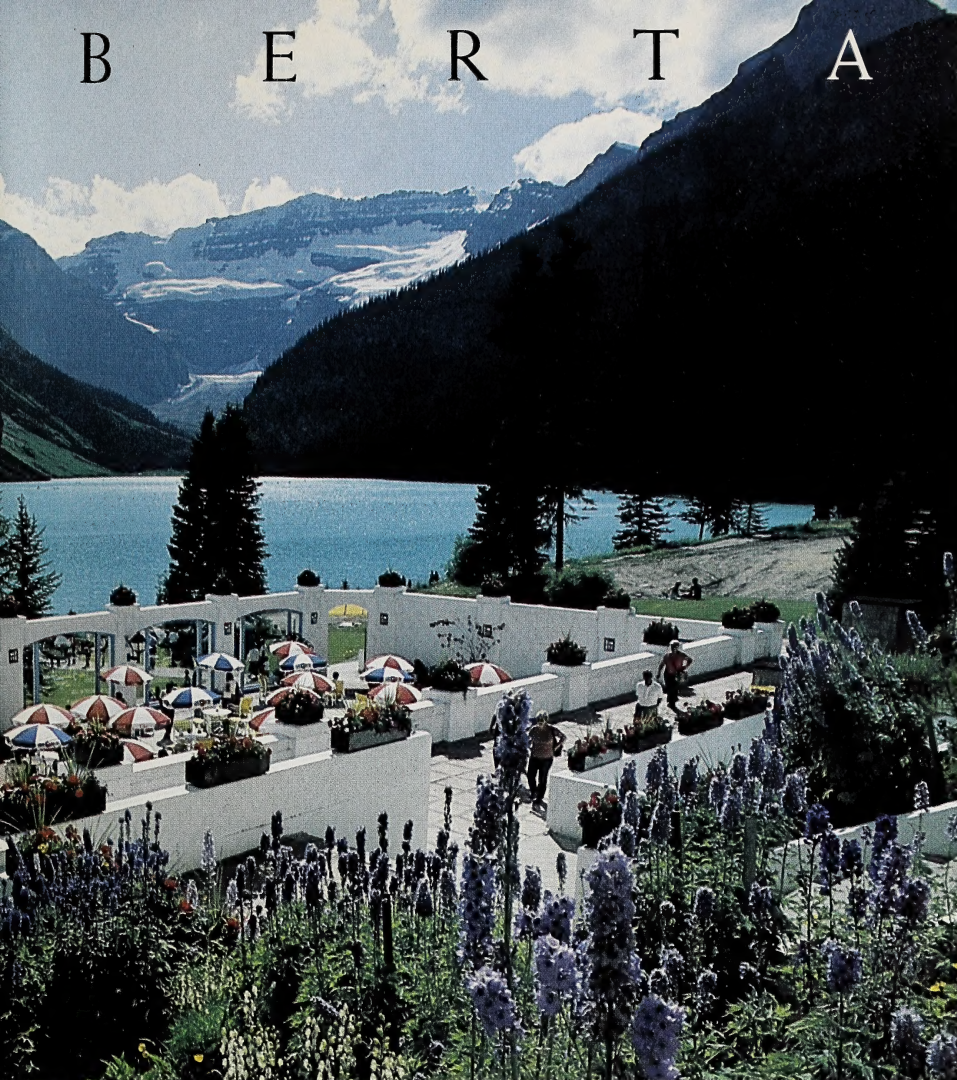
FLYING TIMES:

Vancouver	1 ½ hours
Toronto	3 ½ hours
San Francisco	2 ½ hours
Seattle	3 ½ hours
Dallas	3 ½ hours
Chicago	5 hours

B E R T A

MAY 11 1988

Winter games Our mountains offer visitors four seasons of activity amid unparalleled beauty. ▼



CONTENTS:

To help you plan your perfect Alberta vacation, we've developed this planning guide. Divided into the following seven sections, it is designed to give a travelling glimpse into our abundance of attractions, and to whet your appetite for all the wonders of the province.

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More detailed information on all our vacation opportunities, events and attractions is available free from Travel Alberta on request. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.

RCMP Musical Ride at Fort Macleod Originally the North West Mounted Police, Canada's famed "Mounties" first came to Alberta in 1885. ▼



A WARM WELCOME AWAITS

When you arrive at many destinations you'll find world-class resorts ready to pamper your every holiday whim. Sumptuous restaurants and rich international

Stampede city Calgary is the commercial hub of the province, and was host of the XV Olympic Winter Games. ▼



cuisine are the pride of these establishments. In fact, Albertan chefs recently claimed several gold medals at the World Culinary Olympics in Frankfurt, Germany.

Wherever your travels take you in Alberta, you'll

Edmonton: The provincial capital The site of the Alberta Legislature provides a cosmopolitan urban environment where art and culture flourish. ▼



find people with smiles as big and warm as our long summer days.

As you wander through these pages, we'll share with you some of the spirit and majesty of this most beautiful of holiday destinations.

Near Helen Lake, Banff
*Lush mountain meadows like these are
common in the Rockies; wild flowers
bug hillsides in vast kaleidoscopes of
color. ►*

Soaring mountains climb to endless
blue skies. Forever green forests stand
perfect and undisturbed. Turquoise
glacial rivers tumble down from the high
country and stretch out to distant
horizons. It's a wanderer's delight.
A sightseer's dream.
A vacationer's paradise.

Everywhere you go in
Alberta there are sights to
see and wonders to behold—
points of historical interest
and natural attractions,
one-of-a-kind wonders and
unbounded natural beauty.
You'll find plenty of
viewpoints and roadside
pullouts dotted along your
route, where you can stop
to take postcard perfect
pictures.



*Tangle Falls Located just off the
Icefields Parkway, they plunge over a
series of steps and continue over cliffs
formed by 500 million year old
limestone. ▲*

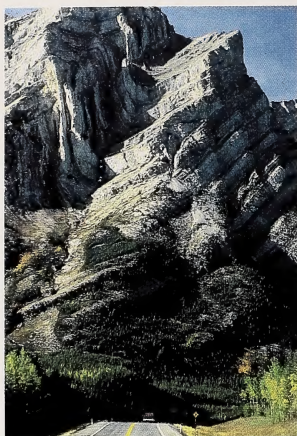
A FEAST





FOR THE EYES

Kananaskis highway A scenic route to the recently developed Kananaskis recreational site. It was the site venue of the Calgary Olympic downhill alpine events. ▼



There are few better ways to experience the unbridled beauty of this province than by car, motor coach or motor home. Modern highways with wide paved shoulders and a network of lightly travelled secondary roads offer easy access to the towns, cities and scenic attractions of Alberta.

OUR MAJESTIC ROCKIES

The Canadian Rocky Mountains offer visitors the chance to experience the majesty and unrelenting beauty of nature untamed. First-class roads and first-class accommodation are the only additions we've made to these fabulous natural attractions. Otherwise they stand untouched as they have since well before the dawn of man.

Alberta's Rockies are divided into four areas. Jasper and Banff National Parks, Kananaskis Country, and Waterton Lakes National Park. While all four areas offer spectacular summer sightseeing opportunities, each has its own unique attractions.

Banff National Park, a one and a half hour drive west of Calgary, is right in the heart of the Rockies. There are two internationally famous resorts in this park; Lake Louise and Banff. The chic alpine town of Banff offers something for everyone. You can spend half a day just browsing through the charming boutiques in the main street. Here you will find work from Canadian artisans that can't be bought anywhere else in the world. There are fine restaurants, cafes and bars, and let's not forget the forever famous Banff Springs Hotel.



The magnificent scale of this superior establishment is dwarfed only by the vast majesty of the surrounding mountainscape. If you're not actually staying in the hotel, a meal in the grandeur of one of her many dining rooms is an absolute must. When visiting the Banff region, be sure to ride one of the scenic gondolas; they offer bird's eye views of the region. At the top of the Sulphur mountain gondola you'll find a 360 degree panoramic observation deck; and any time is tea-time at the highest tea house in the Rockies.

Half an hour down the road from Banff is the Lake Louise resort. Here you'll



Chateau Lake Louise Built in 1905, this landmark 520-room hotel rests on the shores of Lake Louise. Luxury accommodation in the province ranges from Cdn \$400 to Cdn \$400 per night in the high season. ◀

Waterton Lakes Straddling the Canada/US border is the world's first international peace park. One of the best ways to enjoy the spectacular views is by taking a scenic cruise boat tour. ▼





Banff Springs Hotel
A Scottish-style castle that has everything, including an 18-hole golf course ranked in the world's top ten scenic courses. ▲

Maligne Lake Maligne Lake boat tours offer a novel way to capture the flavor of one of the most photographed locations in the Rockies, and to discover the mysterious Indian legends of Spirit Island. ▼



find the much-acclaimed Chateau Lake Louise. Boasting 520 rooms of unashamed luxury, it sits majestically above the glacial waters of Lake Louise. The resort was named after one of Queen Victoria's nieces, and the Queen herself is commemorated in the magical Victoria Glacier which dominates the picture postcard view from the Chateau.

Kananaskis, south-east of Banff and just an hour's drive west from downtown Calgary, is a multi-use recreational area with facilities for picnicking, camping, hiking and horse-back riding as well as a multitude of summer and



Mountain goat Alberta is home to hundreds of species of free-ranging wildlife: mountain goats, moose, deer, elk and bighorn sheep are among those most often spotted. ▲



1. Banff Cave and Basin
2. Lundbreck Falls
3. Lake Minnewanka
4. Columbia Icefield
5. Icefields Parkway
6. Moraine Lake
7. Miette Hot Springs

8. David Thompson Highway
9. Athabasca Falls
10. Jasper Aerial Tramway
11. Maligne Lake
12. Peyto Lake
13. Sulphur Mountain
14. Whistlers Mountain



winter sports activities. Wildlife enthusiasts will find many opportunities to observe moose, elk, bighorn sheep, and perhaps even golden eagles, in their mountain wilderness habitat.

Between Banff and Jasper lies 230 km (143 miles) of fantastic scenic drives known as the Icefields

Columbia Icefield 389 square km (150 square miles) of glacial ice and snow formed over thousands of years. It offers an interpretive/information centre and spectacular "snowcoach" rides. ▲

Lundbreck Falls Located in the south-west corner of the province, this idyllic spot offers camping, fishing and unparalleled natural beauty. ▼



Parkway. It's a take-your-breath-away tour that rivals any in the world. Along the way you'll see glorious glaciers and wonderful waterfalls. The awe-inspir-

ing Athabasca Falls is a particular favorite. There's an interpretive centre, hotel and restaurant at our most visited glacier: the Columbia Icefield. And you can

actually ride on it by taking one of Brewster Transportation and Tours' spectacular "snowcoach" excursions. These 55 minute tours are available from late May to late September.

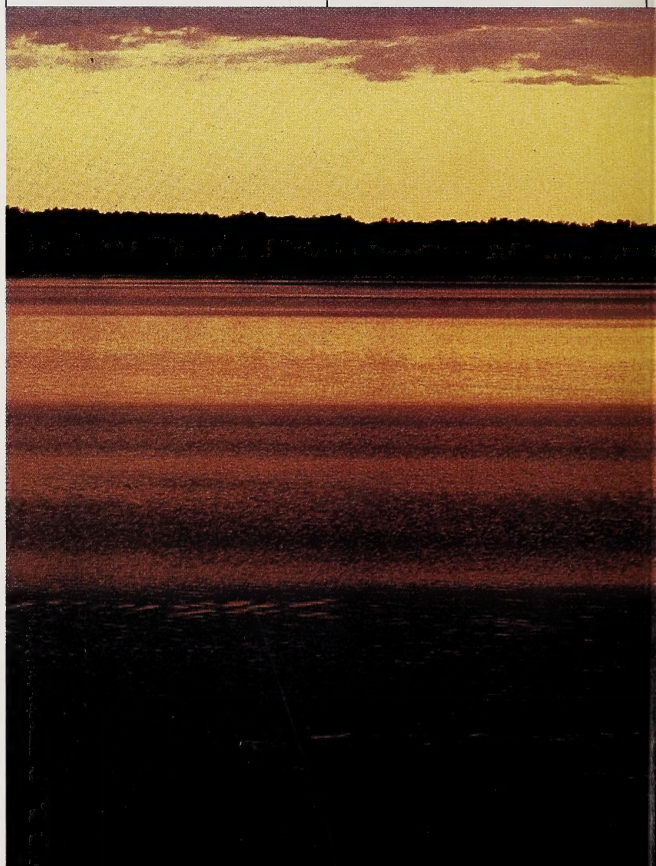
Travel south from Banff and Kananaskis to the province's southwestern corner and you'll find the serenity of Waterton Lakes National Park. In 1932 this beautiful area joined its neighbor Glacier National Park in Montana to form the world's first international Peace Park.

Jasper, our most northerly mountain park, is a two and a half hour drive west of Edmonton. This stunning National Park is also home to beautiful waterways. The most visited of which is the sensational Maligne Lake, the second largest glacial lake in the world. From June to

September you can take a two hour scenic cruise across to the mysterious tranquillity of Spirit Island.

For a fantastic vantage point of the Rockies, take the Jasper Tramway up The Whistlers Mountain. It runs April through October. Or, keeping your feet on the ground, visit Miette Hot Springs; 60 km (38 miles) out of the Jasper townsite, these springs are the warmest in the Canadian Rockies. They're open mid-May to mid-September with bathing suit and towel rental available.

At the centre of all our mountain resorts you'll find thriving alpine villages that are as attractive as their idyllic surroundings. They offer visitors fine accommodation, good food, unique shopping opportunities and a thoroughly relaxed atmosphere.





Jasper Tramway Located 7 km south of Jasper, the tram whisks up The Whistlers Mountain to an altitude of 2,285 metres (7,496 feet). ▲

Northern lakes Canoeing, fishing and windsurfing are some of the exciting possibilities offered by these peaceful stretches of water. ▼

MORE THAN MOUNTAINS

While visitors flock annually from the four corners of the globe just to bask in the beauty of our mountains, Alberta has many other scenic jewels that are unique in the world.

As you will see from the following sections, Alberta has more things to see and do in more park space than any other province in Canada. We have no less than 60 provincial parks and more than 100 designated recreation areas. And the diversity of scenery in these is matched only by the diversity of wild animal and bird life.

For routes and more information about the many sightseeing opportunities the province has to offer, please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and

toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.



Byzantine church Alberta has roots in many cultures, and consequently the province is home to many diverse religions - these are reflected in the beautiful churches you will find wherever you tour in Alberta. ▲



Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village A distinctly Ukrainian scene from one of the province's most popular ethnic attractions. The dancers are the Shumka Dancers, one of a number of Ukrainian dance troupes based in the region. ►

A multitude of diverse cultures can claim a role in the making of Alberta. Our heritage is born of a bond with the land and a desire to succeed. Throughout the province, you'll discover evidence of this rich heritage, an intricately woven tapestry that adds color to an already vivid landscape.

ROOTS

Albertans, like most North Americans, can trace their ancestry to a variety of different ethnic backgrounds. And it is with much pride in their heritage that they maintain the traditions and customs of their forbears. This is vividly illustrated in countless festivals that take place around the province.

The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village 50 km (31 miles) east of Edmonton, is a fine example. Year-round, you can follow the fascinating story of these colorful immigrants from the Ukraine to East Central Alberta. Numerous historic buildings can be visited, and costumed interpreters re-enact the lifestyles of pioneer settlers.

Travel a few extra miles to Vegreville where you will find a seven metre (23 foot) tall Easter egg. We all love Easter eggs, but it's not everywhere that you can

CULTURE, CITIES



S AND HISTORY



find one constructed from over 3,500 pieces of aluminum and weighing 2,270 kg (5004 lbs).

Just west of Red Deer, at Markerville, is Stephansson House. This was the residence of Stephen G. Stephansson, one of Iceland's greatest poets, and one of the most prolific poets in the western world. The house has been fully restored to its 1920's condition, and tours are available mid-May to mid-September. In addition, visitors can see traditional Icelandic handicrafts such as spinning and knitting.

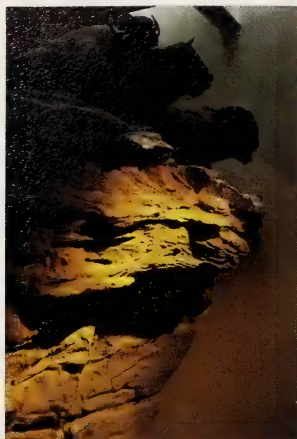
To many people Alberta's most interesting culture is that of her first native peoples. The Indian culture is still very much a vibrant part of Alberta's make-up. You'll notice many of the place names here are Indian names or literal translations of them.

One of the Indian heritage sites in the province, "Head-Smashed-In" Buffalo Jump, was designated a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1981. The jump was used



Indian artifacts in Glenbow Museum, Calgary Year round you'll find fascinating displays of Indian and Inuit art/artifacts and exhibits which trace western Canadian history from the fur trading days through to the oil boom. ▲

"Head-Smashed-In" Buffalo Jump Located just west of Fort Macleod, this is the largest and best preserved buffalo jump in North America. It was last used in the 1880's. ▼



for more than 5,600 years by Plains people to drive bison to their deaths to obtain food and materials for clothing and shelter. The site, which is open year-round, boasts a fascinating new interpretive centre and knowledgeable, friendly guides.



The Edmonton Ballet *Ballet* is well loved in Alberta. ▲

CITY SCENE

The burgeoning metropolises of Calgary and Edmonton have come a long way in a relatively short time. While both are proud of a pioneer settlement past, they have acquired rich urban cultures that belong very much to today. They boast world-class entertainment and sports venues, unique shopping opportunities and some of North America's foremost museums and science centres.



EDMONTON

FESTIVAL CITY

Edmonton, Alberta's capital city, has become widely known as Canada's festival city. Every summer an array of colorful, exciting festivals fill its streets and parks. The first days of July bring the Jazz City International Festival and The Works: A Visual Arts Celebration. Then, in the latter half of July, the city hosts its famous Klondike Days extravaganza. Everyone turns their clocks back 100 years to relive the Klondike Gold Rush. Parades, gold-panning, costume parties and raft races ensue as gold fever once again hits the city. In the midst of all



this the Summerfest street performing festival takes place. Early August brings the much-loved Folk Music Festival, drawing big name performers from all over North America. This is followed by the acclaimed Fringe Theatre Event. The first Saturday and Sunday in August are Heritage Days,

the city's annual celebration of its rich ethnic diversity with dancing, arts, crafts and international cuisine. Of course, gourmet international food is available year-round in the city. In fact there are over 400 restaurants specializing in over 25 different types of cuisine.



Shopping The streets of Edmonton are filled with exciting shopping opportunities and charming cafes and bars. ◀

Jazz City Once a year the City of Edmonton turns into the City of Jazz. This jazz extravaganza is one of the many summer festivals for which Edmonton has become famous. ▼





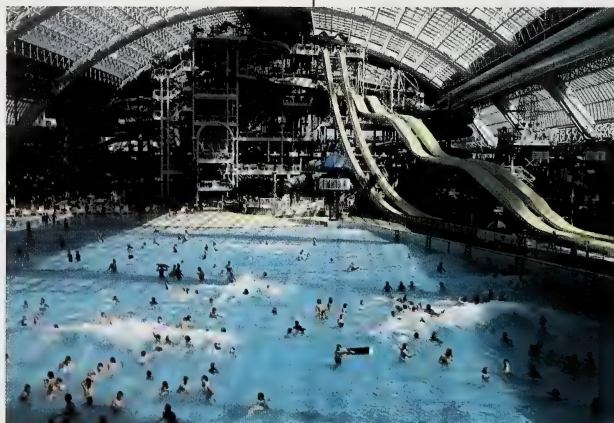
THE WORLD'S LARGEST MALL

West Edmonton Mall, fifteen minutes from downtown, is the world's largest shopping complex. It boasts 44 hectares (5.5 million square feet) of shopping space. In all there are 800 shops, eleven major department stores, 110 restaurants, 34 movie theatres, and a



West Edmonton Mall Gucci, Ralph Lauren, Cachet are some of the host of prestigious labels to be found in the boutiques lining Europa Boulevard. ▲

English Galleon West Edmonton Mall's Deep Sea Adventure Park boasts this full-size replica of the Santa Maria. ▲



hotel. No wonder this mall is often referred to as the eighth wonder of the world. And, in case these facilities aren't enough to tempt you, the mall also houses five major recreation and amusement parks, including Fantasyland, the world's largest indoor amusement

West Edmonton Mall In addition to being the world's largest shopping complex, this mall also houses the world's largest indoor amusement and water park. ▼

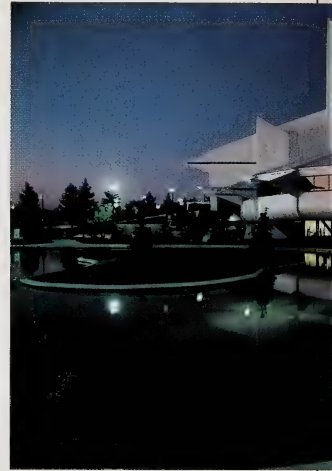
and water park. It's jam-packed with rides for the young – and the young at heart.

Wherever you shop in Alberta you'll find the Canadian dollar's favorable exchange rate and the lack of sales tax means your money goes further.

"MUST-SEES"

All year round Edmonton is the stage for more theatre companies per capita than any other city in Canada. Its opera, symphony, and art galleries attract top talent from around the world.

Rising from the banks of the North Saskatchewan



River, Edmonton's skyline is an impressive profile of modern skyscrapers. The Edmonton Space Sciences Centre, built in 1984, contains over \$3 million worth of state-of-the-science exhibits for all the family to experiment with, free of charge. It also has a heart-stopping IMAX Theatre, a mind-boggling planetarium, and a fabulous laser light show arena. Be sure and pay a visit to the fascinating Muttart Conservatory. It's easy to spot; it's made up of four massive glass pyramids which contain flora and fauna from around the globe – one pyramid for each climatic region.

Other must-sees in the city include the Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta, Strathcona Science Park and Fort Edmonton Park – where 19th century frontier life has been recreated. And watch out for

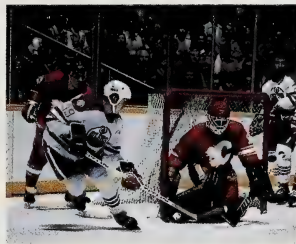
the many events that happen regularly in the north of the city in the huge Northlands Exhibition complex.

Edmonton's National Hockey League team, the Oilers, is based in this complex at the Northlands coliseum. With 18,500 seats, all winter long it rocks



Edmonton Space Sciences Centre *This the largest planetarium in Canada, and it's packed with excitement for the whole family. ▲*

with cheers for this Wayne Gretzky-led Stanley Cup champion team. Edmonton also boasts the 60,000-seat Commonwealth stadium. Built for the 11th Commonwealth Games, it is now permanent home to the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League, 1987 Grey Cup champions.



NHL Hockey, AAA Baseball, CFL Football *Alberta has strong national teams, of which she is fiercely proud. ▲*

CALGARY

STAMPEDE CITY

Originally a North West Mounted Police Fort, prosperity brought by ranching and an oil boom helped build this dynamic metropolis and earned it this nickname. A three hour drive (or 30 minute flight) from Edmonton, Calgary has a population of well over half a million inhabitants.

AN OLYMPIC LEGACY

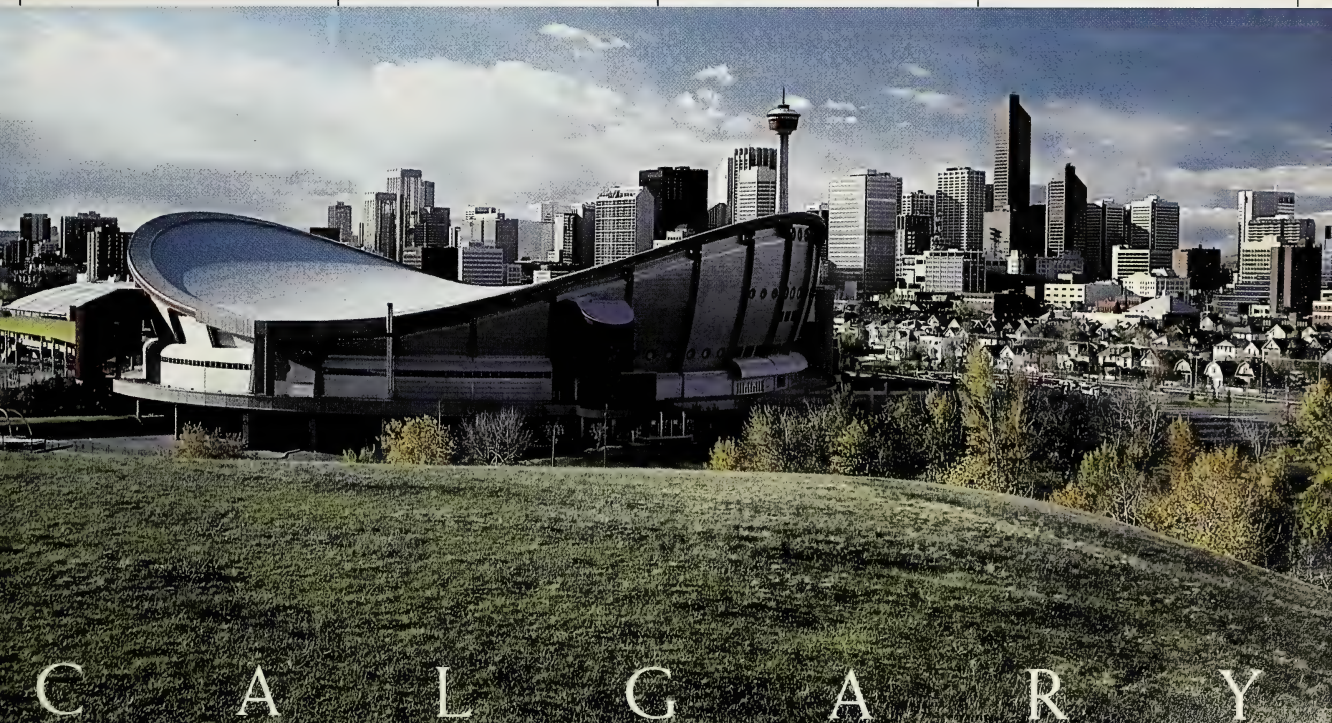
February 1988 brought the XVth Olympic Winter Games to Calgary. While warm memories of this spectacular event live on in the hearts of Calgarians, other more permanent Olympic legacies remain to be enjoyed by future visitors. One of them, the Olympic Saddledome, aside from having the world's largest concrete saddle for a roof, has the distinction of being home to the pride of

Calgary's NHL fans: The Calgary Flames. In total, five new facilities were built for the Games and they make for fascinating viewing. As do the many retrospective Olympic exhibits, hands-on displays and videos the city proudly shows off in the Hall of Fame at Canada Olympic Park.

SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO

Calgary is full of surprises, in fact the only thing you can be sure of is that you'll never run out of things to do. Visit Heritage Park and step back 80 years to explore an authentic Albertan frontier town. Or, for an even stronger flavor of the wild west, come to the city in the first two weeks of July when Stampede rodeo fever hits the city.

There's the Calgary Zoo and Prehistoric Park, one of North America's best-designed and most interesting zoological parks. It features over three hundred living species and



C A L G A R Y

The Calgary Zoo With over a thousand residents, this is Canada's second largest zoo. Open year-round it's a lot more than just a zoo. It also contains a tropical aviary/conservatory, and a Prehistoric Park displaying life-size dinosaur replicas. ▼



many life-size replicas of their dinosaur ancestors. Kids also love visiting Calaway Park, six km (four miles) west of Calgary, this is western Canada's first major theme park. It boasts over 50 exciting rides and amusements, in addition to several special events scheduled throughout the summer season.

Calgary also offers numerous attractions and events for arts and science lovers. The Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts contains three first class venues. There's one of Canada's finest concert halls – permanent home to the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, and two superbly appointed theatres. The Centre annually attracts many world-famous performers. Calgary Centennial Planetarium and Science Centre is a must for budding astronomers and scientists everywhere. It features special-effect star shows, 35 hands-on interactive displays and an observatory.

There are many museums and galleries in Calgary. The most prominent are the Alberta College of Art Gallery, the Muttart Gallery, the Energeum and the renowned Glenbow Museum, with its permanent Indian and Inuit art and craft displays.

Fans of international show-jumping and horse trials should head for Calgary's Spruce Meadows. This is one of North America's finest equine facilities. Every year the Spruce Meadows Masters Tournament attracts the very best horsemen from around the globe.

Art The province is proud of its wide-ranging arts patronage. Our cities are renowned for their art galleries and theatres. ▼



FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD!

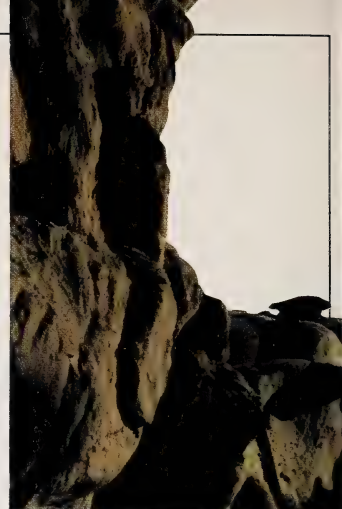
Both visitors and residents enjoy eating their way around the world without ever leaving the city. Calgary has a wealth of gourmet restaurants specializing in everything from French to Ukrainian cuisine. And wherever you go in the province, you're never far away from Alberta's famous beef; raised traditionally by real cowboys, there's no other beef like it in the world.

Calgary also has western Canada's highest restaurant which revolves at the top of the 190 metre (626 foot) high Calgary Tower. Up here you'll find a wonderful panoramic view of Calgary and the Rocky Mountains beyond. Of course, if looking isn't enough, drive west for an hour, and you can actually be in these majestic mountains.

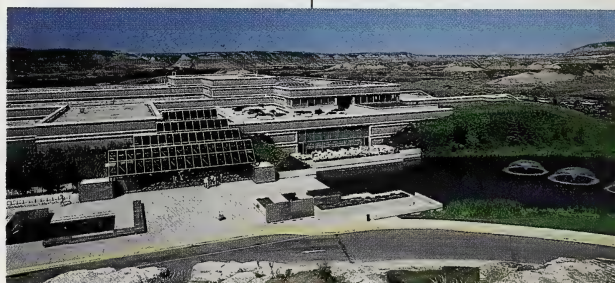
No guide to Alberta's urban culture would be complete without reference to some of her other

thriving cities. Red Deer, half-way between Calgary and Edmonton, is home to the International Folk Festival and Westerner Exhibition which takes place in July. And the Red Deer International Airshow draws thousands of visitors to the city every August.

Further to the south and east lie Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Both are major business and agriculture centres, and boast distinctive architecture, museums and art galleries. Grande Prairie, Alberta's most northwesterly city is becoming famous for its hot air balloon championships.



The Tyrrell Museum Visitors travel back 60 million years to see one of the world's foremost dinosaur collections. ▼



60 MILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING

60 million years ago Alberta was home to dinosaurs. The dinosaur capital of Alberta is Drumheller, an hour and a half's drive north-east of Calgary. Many significant finds have come from the Badlands which line the Red Deer River Valley.

One of the best ways to experience the extraordinary natural phenomenon of the Badlands is to drive the Dinosaur Trail. The trail is a 48 km (30 mile) loop going west of Drumheller. It provides a fascinating insight into the geographic history of the land, and awe-inspiring views of this unique physiographic region.

Five minutes from downtown Drumheller is the already famous Tyrrell

Museum of Palaeontology. Conceived as a living museum with an emphasis on furthering research, it affords many opportunities to see on-going site work. You'll find fossils tracing the evolution of life, hands-on exhibits, and an extensive display of preserved dinosaur skeletons discovered in the area. It's actually the world's largest collection of dinosaur remains, with specimens ranging from eggs to colossal full-grown dinosaurs. While the museum is ideal for the whole family, you'll find children get a special thrill out of seeing life-size dinosaur reconstructions for the first time. All this, plus demonstrations, trips to excavation sites and fossil hunts have helped to put the museum into the ranks of Canada's top five museum

Hoodoos Located in Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park erosion over millions of years has eaten away at the soil to leave these haunting monuments to the dinosaur age. Film-makers looking for "alien" landscapes usually find what they're looking for in this region. ▼



attendance draws. Admission is free, and the museum is open nine till nine seven days a week in the summer months (ten till five and closed Mondays from October to April). You'll want to spend a full day here to soak up everything this wonderful facility has to offer.

South of Drumheller, and 40 km (25 miles) west of Brooks, is a UN World Heritage Site: Dinosaur Provincial Park. This fascinating 15,000 acre park provides another glimpse into our prehistoric past. It is the site of one of the world's most extensive dinosaur fields. At The Brooks Field Station Visitors Centre you can watch finds being examined, and there are daily interpretive programs, self-guided walks and bus tours.

Two hours south and east are the Cypress Hills. Rising from the surrounding prairie to an altitude of 1,462 metres (approx. 4,800 feet), it is one of the few areas in western Canada unaltered by the last glacial period. The result is a unique climate and vegetation zone which supports no less than 14 varieties of orchids and over 200 species of birds. Watch also for the wild turkey, moose and

pronghorn antelope that inhabit this lush prairie oasis.

When your route takes you near Lethbridge in the south of the province (two hours west of the Cypress Hills), be sure and pay a visit to the Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens. These authentic gardens of meditation were created in 1967 as a symbol of friendship between the peoples of Japan and Canada. They're open mid-May to mid-October. Escorted tours are provided by guides in traditional Japanese kimonos.

Some of our buried treasure goes back even further than dinosaurs. Our province is also blessed with substantial mineral deposits. Yes, there's still gold in some of them tar hills, and coal, and perhaps most valuable of all, oil. You may well see the spires of the drilling derricks dotted around the province. Our most innovative oil extraction plant is at Fort McMurray, in the north-east. Here oil is recovered from oil rich sands by gigantic scooping machines. The Oil Sands Interpretive Centre in Fort McMurray is open year-round with exciting hands-on exhibits and equipment displays.

For more information about our cultural events and attractions, and the

urban Alberta vacation experience, please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.

Nikka Yuko Japanese Gardens Built in 1967 as a centennial project by the City of Lethbridge and its Japanese residents, these authentic gardens are a place of contemplation and peace. ►



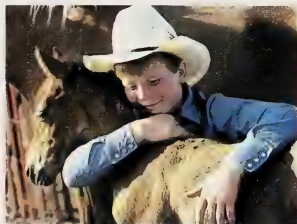
1. Banff Centre
2. Stephansson House
3. Space Sciences Centre
4. Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village
5. Vegreville
6. West Edmonton Mall
7. Tyrrell Museum
8. Whyte Museum
9. Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump
10. Mormon Temple
11. Rutherford House
12. Strathcona Archaeological Centre
13. Historic Dunvegan
14. Leitch Collieries
15. Father Lacombe Chapel
16. Alberta Natural Resources Science Centre
17. Frank Slide

Trail ride in the Rockies Many operators offer these excursions. It's you, your horse and a landscape unchanged for eons. Whether you go for an hour or for a week, trail ride memories last a lifetime. ►

The voice of the Old West still echoes across the prairies and into the foothills. Spur-heeled boots, tall white hats, saddle soap and leather are vivid reminders of a proud western heritage. Alberta is classic cowboy country.

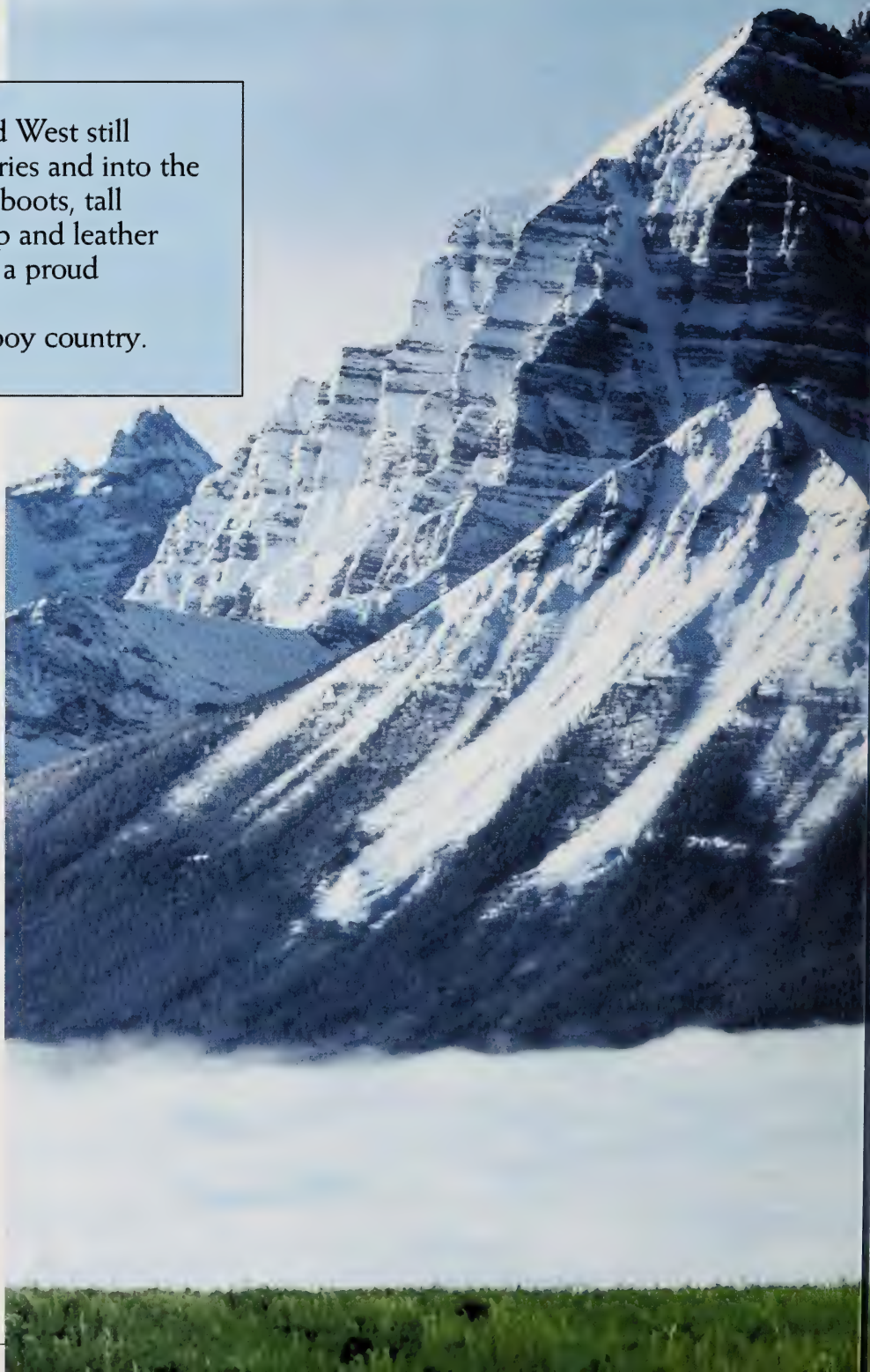
A GUEST OF THE OLD WEST

Real cowboys, real ranches and real rodeos keep the simple spirit of the Old West alive. Visit one of the many working ranches that are scattered over our rolling plains and foothills. Many of these ranches and home-



steads offer country vacations. Visitors have the opportunity to turn back the hands of time and enjoy Old West ranching adventure. Long or short stays are available throughout the summer.

But make no mistake, the only old-fashioned aspects of these places are the hospitality, the wholesome food and the unspoiled landscape. You'll also find all the comforts of home. And they wouldn't be ranches if they didn't have stables full of trail-seasoned horses.



H A A A W !



Dinner round the campfire
*While a trail cook satisfies your
appetite with hearty western fare,
drink in the music and majestic
surroundings. ▼*



Of course you don't have to be staying at a ranch to saddle up and head for the hills. Many local outfitters specialize in day and overnight trips in the mountains. Trail rides are generally suitable for all riders, whether beginners or more advanced.

There can be no more natural way to experience the majesty of the Rockies than by taking the family on one of these fun-packed trail rides. Rest, relax, and enjoy the great outdoors at its greatest. But bring a good appetite; trail cooks are well known for their prowess with steak over red-hot coals.



The Cochrane Ranch One of Alberta's many working ranches. The skills of the Old West are part of everyday life for our cattle rearing community, who pride themselves on rearing some of the world's best beef. ▲

Boots, hats and cowboy tack
Western wear and tack are prize
souvenirs of the Old West in Alberta. ▼



THE GREATEST SHOWS ON EARTH

The Calgary Stampede was started by Guy Weadick, a gifted cowboy showman, in 1912. It was promptly dubbed "The greatest outdoor show on earth". Today the Stampede means fame and fortune for talented cowboys in one of North America's most prestigious rodeos.

But it's not just for the cowboys. Calgary loves to host a good party, and this is a terrific one. For ten days in the first half of July, Stampede fever takes over the whole city. Spur of the moment parties, street dances and parades, pancake breakfasts and wild entertainment is all around. All you need to join in the fun is a ten gallon hat and a smile.

Another celebration that colorfully illustrates our frontier heritage is Edmonton's Klondike Days. Taking place on the heels of the Stampede, for ten days in the latter half of July, it transports the whole city back a hundred years to the time when there was "gold in them thar hills."

Locals and visitors dress in period costumes and relive the gold rush with

parades, parties, gold-panning, the celebrated Sourdough Raft Race and real kick-up-your-heels enthusiasm.

In addition to these major events, virtually every town in Alberta has its own fair and rodeo in the summer months. Many of these small town rodeos let you get so close you can almost taste the action. Several of these events are part of the North American professional rodeo circuit.



At home on the range Ranch and farm vacations are a real eye-opener for children ▲



Chuck-wagon racing Part of the world-famous Calgary Stampede, this event really sorts the men from the boys. ▼

Klondike Days This annual festival goes all out to relive the 1890's gold rush. ▲



TAKE IN THE SITES

As well as our summer western festivals, there are plenty of other opportunities to catch up with the past. Forts and towns have been painstakingly restored and recreated to reflect the settling years of the last century.



Fort Macleod This intriguing site depicts life as it was in North West Mounted Police forts during the early settlement days. ▲

All are open to the public, some have their own interpretive centres, and one, Fort Macleod, has become part of Western Canada's first and only designated Provincial Historic Area.

Another must if you're seeking an authentic glimpse into our pioneer past is Calgary's Heritage Park. Situated a few minutes from downtown Calgary, this 26.7 hectare (66 acre) park provides a unique opportunity to explore a prairie railroad town of the



Heritage Park This perfect replica of a pioneer town contains many genuine buildings that have been moved here intact from their original locations. ▲



Fort Edmonton Park Fort Edmonton was reconstructed in 1969, from a sketch made in 1846 by a British army officer. The fort was used for a long time as a major fur trading post by the Hudson's Bay Company. ▼



early 1900's, and immerse yourself in the lives of early trappers, miners and settlers. The Park is open June through October.

Wherever your holiday trail takes you in Alberta you'll find the fresh air and wide open spaces that make this country resemble a scene from your favorite Western and a perfect vacation destination.

For more information about the Old West that lives on in the province, please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.



RECREATION IN

Kananaskis Country Golf Course With the fairy-tale landscape of the Rockies as a backdrop, you'll be forgiven for taking your eye off the ball occasionally. Designed by Robert Trent Jones, it has 36 holes on two par 72 championship courses. ►

Alberta is a sportsman's paradise. With every new season comes endless possibilities. Classic golf on classic courses. Trails to hike and trails to ride. With so much to see, and so much to do, Alberta issues challenges to all who are game.

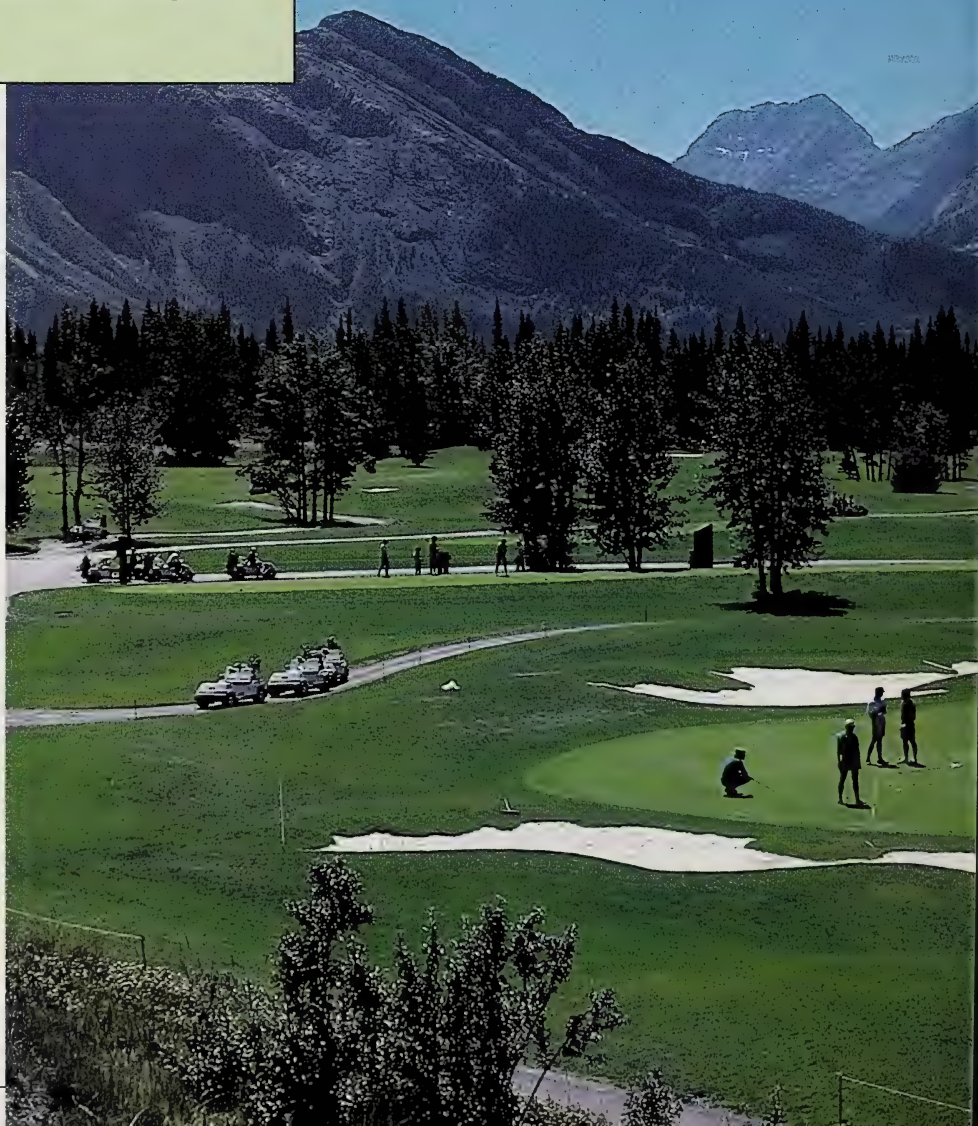
SPORTING CHANCES

Golf is big in Alberta. Of the many courses around the province, perhaps the most prized are the mountain courses. Carved from the exquisite beauty of our majestic Rockies, you'll find yourself reaching for your camera as often as your nine iron. All our mountain resorts have at least one course and green fees are around Cdn \$30 per person.

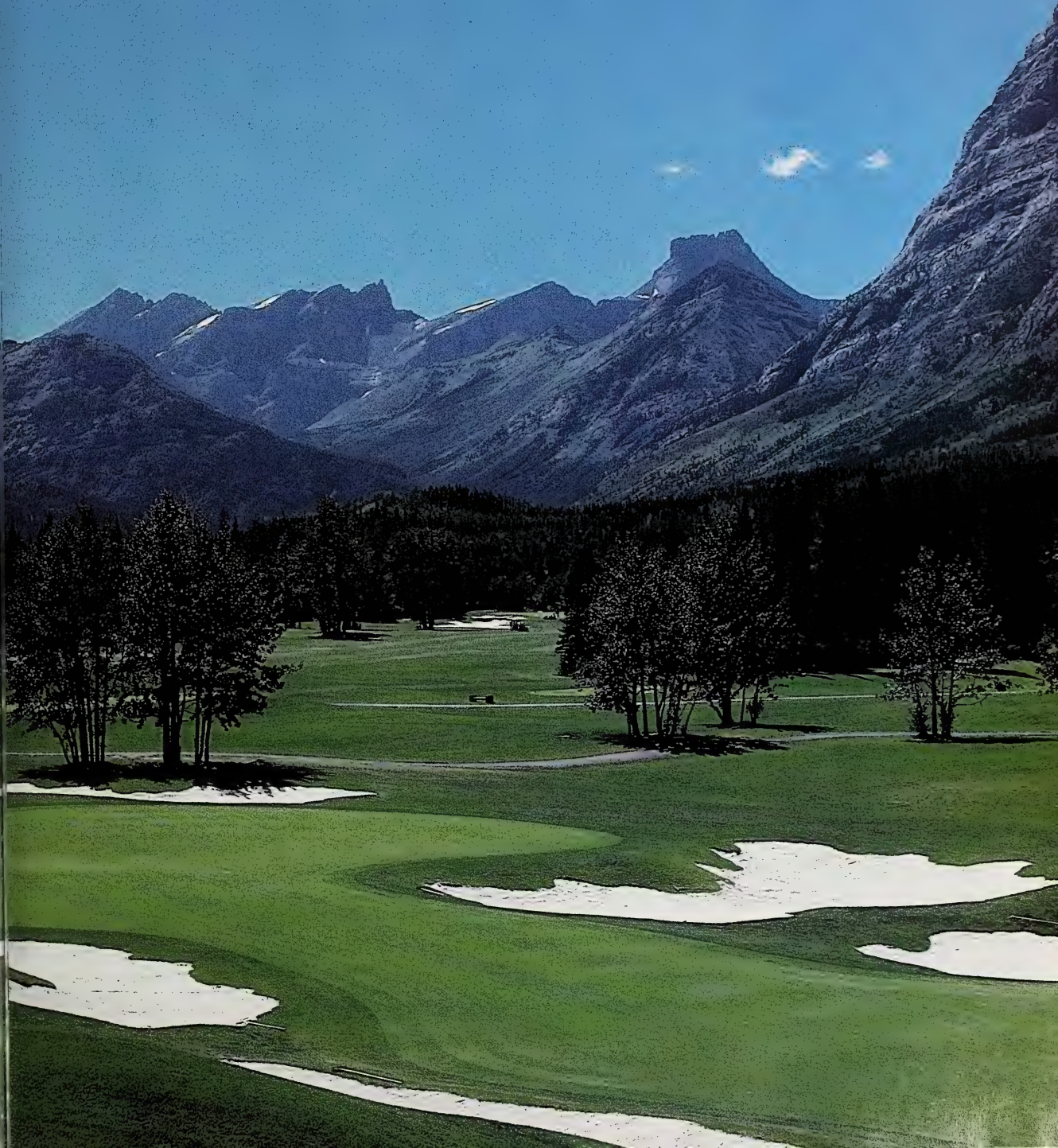
Kananaskis Country, just an hour from downtown



Hiking A peaceful and inspiring way to soak up the scenery and the mountain-fresh air. ▲



THE GREAT OUTDOORS





Calgary, is a year-round multi-use recreational area offering a multitude of activities for the outdoor enthusiast. In addition to two spectacular championship golf courses, there are facilities for boating, fishing, tennis, camping and picnicking – plus numerous trails for hiking, cycling and horseback riding.

Farm vacations hold tremendous appeal for the horse riding enthusiast, and they're altogether great for kids. It's a unique chance to get away from it all, and see what life is really like down on the farm. They are mainly in the southern half of the province, and as with all packages referred to in this guide, Travel Alberta

Cycling Alberta has several operators specializing in cycling tours, and they usually have bicycles available for rent. ▲

will be pleased to furnish you with an up-to-date listing of operators.

Another way to get close to nature's beauty is to take to the hills with a backpack and hike through some of our most spectacular scenery. Or perhaps a cycle tour appeals to you more. Broad paved shoulders on many of our highways make this an ideal way to take in the sights.

Camping in one of over 1,000 campgrounds is a practical and fun way to enjoy our great outdoors every minute of your Alberta vacation.

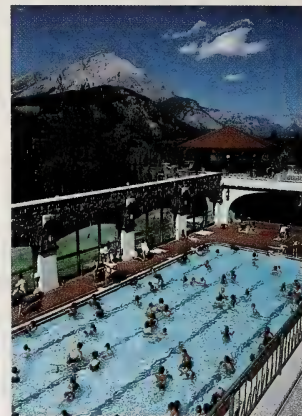
Alberta's cities offer a wealth of public indoor recreational facilities. As a visitor to our province, you are invited to enjoy their use. Many hotels have their own pools, exercise rooms and health spas. But you'll also find plenty of gymnasiums and state-of-the-sport leisure centres offering drop-in fitness classes, indoor wave pools, jogging tracks, squash and racquet courts, and just about everything to help keep you in shape.

Edmonton's recreational facilities are as numerous as

they are varied. You'll find 68 km (42 miles) of hiking and cycling trails along the city's lush river valley, in addition to golfing, swimming, fishing and boating opportunities.

Calgary also offers numerous public golf courses, and you will find an attractive scenic jogging/cycling circuit in Prince's Island Park near the heart of downtown.

Spruce Meadows Masters Tournament This prestigious event attracts riders and horses from five countries. ▼



Cave and Basin Centennial Centre The discovery of hot springs here a hundred years ago led to the formation of Banff National Park. In addition to swimming, an interpretive centre is open year-round for visitors. ▲



Ballooning Beautiful scenery acts like a magnet for balloonists, Alberta has more balloons per capita than any other Canadian province. ▲





Fishing the Bow River This fisherman's paradise often yields Brown and Rainbow Trout measuring over 50 centimetres (twenty inches). ▲

Wind-surfing on Bow Lake If you like wind-surfing, you'll love Alberta. Lakes like these could have been made for this thrilling sport. ►



MAKE A SPLASH

Lakes and rivers are a big part of Alberta's geographic make-up, accounting for some 16,796 square km (10,500 square miles) of landscape. And, on that water we offer the water sports enthusiast every conceivable activity. There's canoeing, rafting, wind-surfing and kayaking, and it's all set amid some of the most stunningly beautiful scenery in the world.

can be landing a "lunker." And come nightfall you'll be swapping stories in front of a roaring fire at your lodge. Sport fish up here include Lake Trout, Northern Pike, Walleye and Arctic Grayling.

For more details about the whole range of sporting opportunities in the province, please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.



But the action doesn't stop at the waterline. Our streams, rivers and lakes are crowded with sport fish, irresistible bait for fishermen. The Bow River is without doubt one of the finest fly-fishing rivers in North America. Float trips ranging from one to three days are offered by local operators on this trout-laden river that flows through Calgary. Here you're bound to land a feisty trout of at least 5 pounds (over 2 kilos).

On our vast northern lakes you'll find peace, solitude and huge trophy-sized fish. After a short flight from a key centre you

Camping Pack up the family and come to Alberta for a go-as-you-please camping holiday. Provincial and Municipal campgrounds are located throughout Alberta. Facilities range from Cdn \$20 a night full-service campgrounds to free sites with bare amenities. ▼



Fly-in fishing *The kind of fishing most anglers can only dream about.* ►

HIGH ADVENTURE

Alberta's dramatic landscape is a sporting challenge in itself – a huge natural playground. Unyielding mountains stand waiting to be conquered. Carefree rivers carve their way through deep, tree-lined valleys. Huge game fish stir silently in cold northern lakes. All around grand adventure is just waiting to happen.

NATURE'S ROLLERCOASTER

For the active vacationer, Alberta is like a huge amusement park. Nowhere is this more apparent than on her swirling rivers. Saskatchewan, Peace, Mackenzie and Athabasca flow to the Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic oceans.



Alberta's rafting companies turn them into fun-filled rollercoasters. This is the perfect way to discover hard-to-get-at scenery.

Operators offer a wide variety of whitewater rafting and kayaking packages. Some will see you cascading down

Whitewater rafting Try the Athabasca or the Bow at Banff. Exciting but safe, there are operators offering hourly to overnight trips. ▼

raging rapids, while others offer more peaceful sightseeing. The one thing common to every trip is a well-trained, experienced river guide – the emphasis is always on safety, and all companies adhere to strict professional standards.

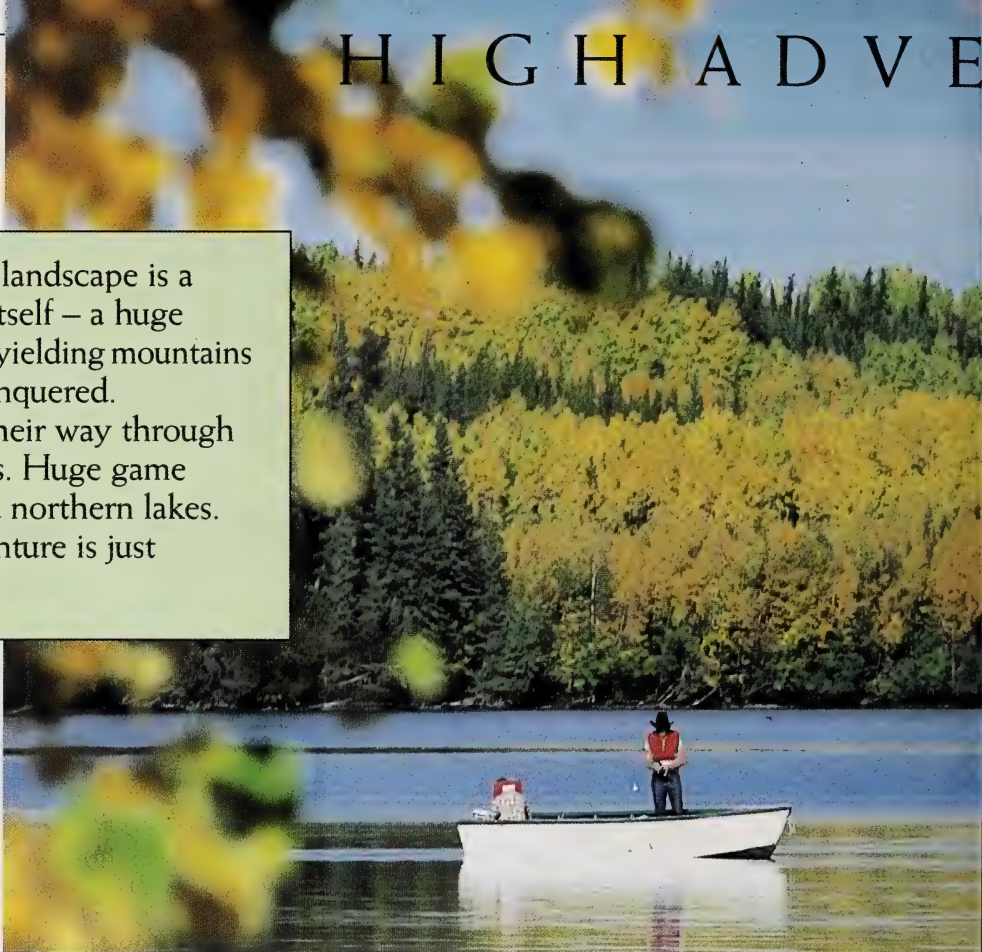
MOUNTAIN MANIA

The high points of Alberta for many adventurers are her Rocky Mountains. For mountaineers they promise the climbing vacation of a lifetime, a chance to conquer lofty summits and soaring peaks. For the mountain-loving amateur, there are many hikeable routes and well-maintained trails to the top. And for the less energetic there are numerous scenic gondolas and tramways. However

Climbing the Rockies Climbers come thousands of miles to climb thousands of feet in our spectacular mountains. For the less experienced, there are many guides and courses available. ▼



Whitewater kayaking Another adrenalin pumping way to ride one of our natural rollercoasters. ◀





Alpine camping There are over 1,000 well-maintained registered campgrounds in Alberta and our mountain ones offer the camper endless wilderness hiking trails in startling scenery. ▼



Ice Climbing If you enjoy climbing, you'll love the challenge of ice climbing. ►

you scale the heights there are always plenty of opportunities for alpine camping.

THE WILDER WILDERNESS

The adventurous spirit is at home in the wilderness, and it doesn't come any wilder than in our many parks and recreation areas. Camping, fishing, canoeing, and trail riding, you name it – it's available in our untamed and unspoiled national and provincial parks. Hunting is also available in many areas, but local restrictions do



Big game hunting Bear, moose, white-tailed deer, duck, pheasant and geese abound in Alberta. Do check regulations and license requirements before embarking on your trip. ▼



apply – please check before embarking.

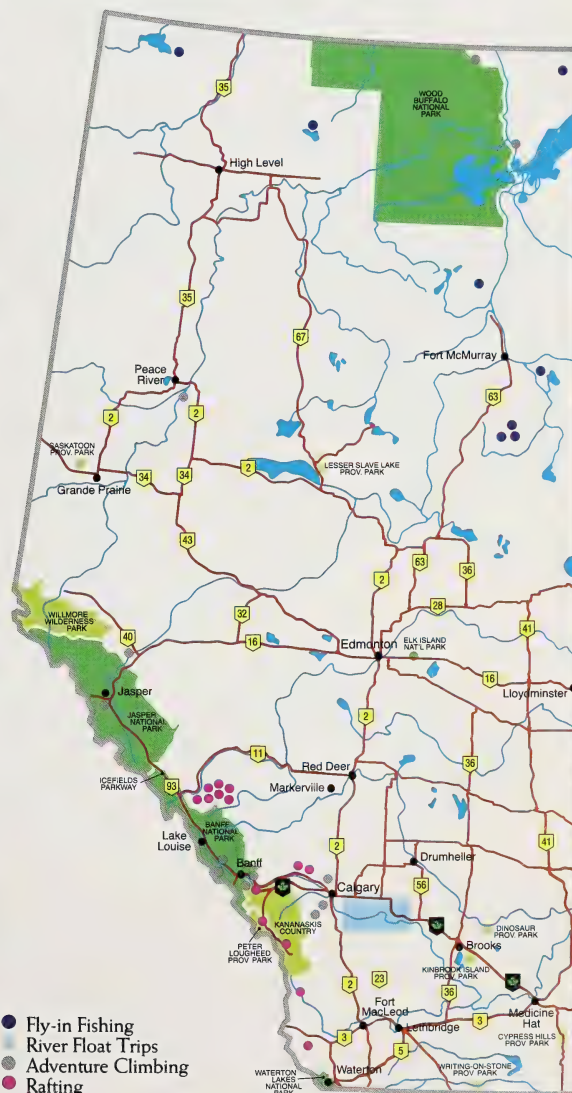
Something for everyone, that's what an Alberta vacation is all about.

To find out more about

Wood Buffalo National Park Acres upon acres of virgin forest and wilderness. It presents a rare opportunity to venture where few others have gone before. ▼



our high adventure opportunities, please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.



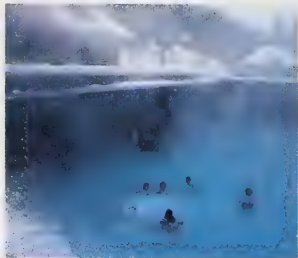
Sunshine Village Skiers cascade down the early morning snow on one of 75 runs at this Banff resort. ►

WINTER

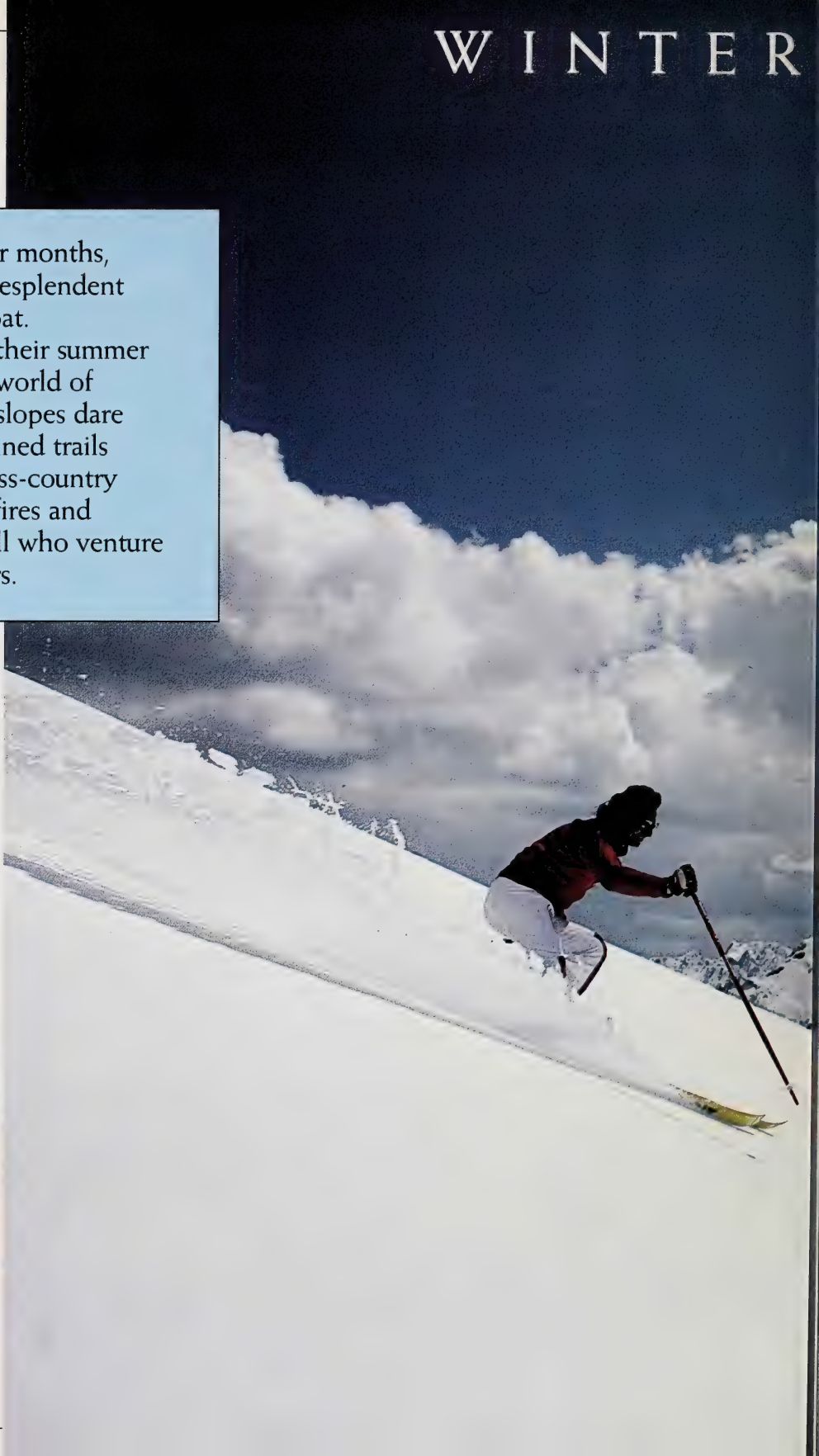
During the winter months, Alberta's Rockies are resplendent in their thick white coat. The snow transforms their summer majesty into a winter world of wonder. Challenging slopes dare the downhiller. Tree-lined trails stretch out for the cross-country wanderer. And warm fires and hospitality welcome all who venture into our great outdoors.

WINTER TIME AND THE SKIING IS EASY

The hardest part about a skiing vacation in Alberta is deciding which of the fabulous resorts to go for. Downhill ski resorts are located in the National Parks of Banff and Jasper, and the Provincial Parks of Kananaskis Country. All offer fast, efficient lifts, to make for shorter lines, and comprehensive ski facilities and services.



Upper Hot Springs Pool 3 km (2 miles) from downtown Banff, these natural sulphur springs have a winter water temperature of 29 degrees C (84F) – perfect to relax in after an action-packed day on the slopes. ▲





WONDERLAND



Banff National Park has Mount Norquay, Sunshine Village and the world-famous resort of Lake Louise. All are loved for their beautiful settings, superb skiing and excellent facilities. Sunshine has the longest ski season in the area, running from mid-November to mid-June, thereby guaranteeing the finest spring skiing imaginable.

Jasper, Canada's largest mountain park, is known for its alpine bowls and its attractive gladed areas. Like our other resorts, Marmot Basin features novice and intermediate terrain as well as everything the expert could wish for.

Two resorts are located in Kananaskis Country. Nakiska at Mount Allan was the site of the XV Olympic Winter Games' downhill events. Fortress Mountain is also a full service ski resort, boasting six lifts servicing 35 runs and inexpensive on-hill accommodations. Both sites are a short drive from

Kananaskis Village, where you'll find three comfortable hotels with rooms and suites to suit all budgets.

In addition to spectacular skiing opportunities, the Rockies' resorts all boast a fun-filled apres-ski night-life: you'll find culinary expertise from all over the world, nightclubs, and quieter lounges for those who've left their energy on the slopes!



There's a lot more to winter in Alberta than just skiing. There are seasonal events and activities to suit all tastes.

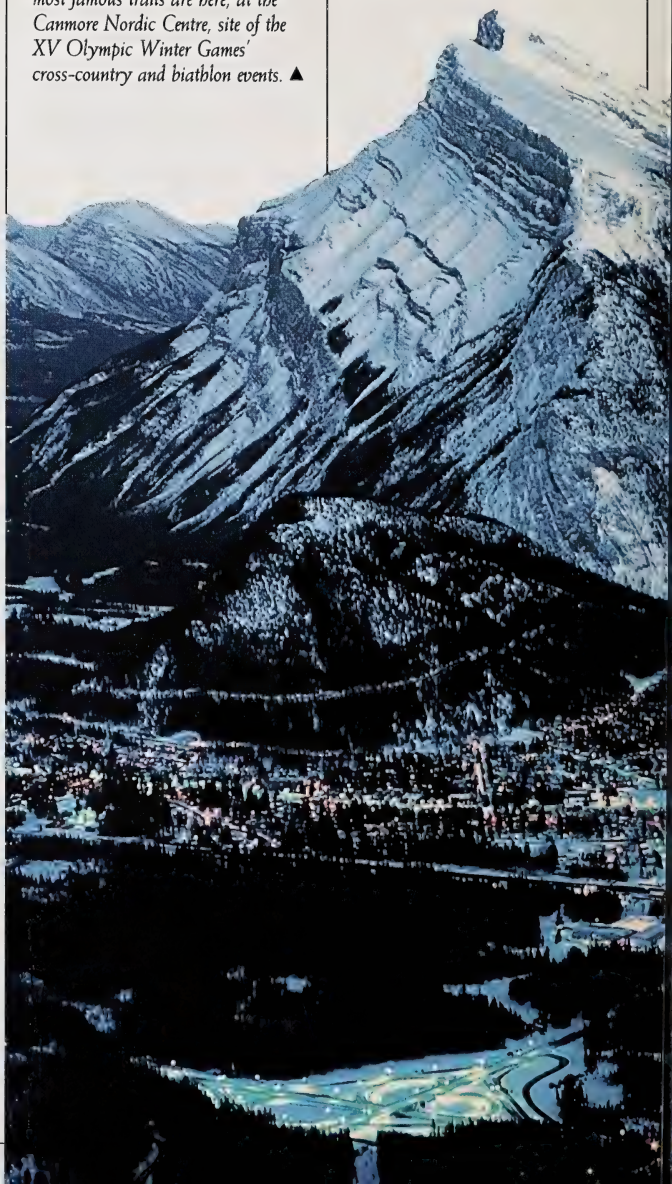
A fun time awaits visitors to the annual Banff Winter Festival. Held in late January or early February, people from far and wide congregate to celebrate winter. The main event is the oddball "Mountain Madness Relay Race," a pentathlon of running, skating, snowshoeing, plus downhill and cross-country skiing. Other activities include a parade, ice sculpture contests, horse packing contests, costume balls and ski joring - being pulled on skis behind a



Cross-country skiing

This super sport is big in Alberta, with trails throughout the province. The most famous trails are here, at the Canmore Nordic Centre, site of the XV Olympic Winter Games' cross-country and biathlon events. ▲

Banff The beautiful townscape of Banff takes on a unique atmosphere come nightfall. ▼



Skoki Lodge This is one of the charming guest lodges that are to be found all over the Rockies. ▲



Dog Sledding This great winter pastime is a thrilling way to see country that is inaccessible to more conventional forms of transport. It's available at Lake Louise and Wood Buffalo National Park ▲



Snowmobiling This is another fun way to get about on an Alberta winter vacation. Try and catch the excitement at one of the many snowmobile races that take place throughout the province. ▲



Ice Sailing The only way to travel, this relatively young sport is attracting a big following. ▲



Nakiska Located within Kananaskis Country, Nakiska at Mount Allan is Canada's newest ski area — it was the site of the Winter Olympic alpine downhill events. ▲



horse (water-skiing has nothing on this!)

As in summer, the sightseer will find plenty to marvel at in the province during winter. The snow and ice do wonderful things to the landscape. Lakes become solid sheets of frosted glass, and nothing suits a mountain like a big white winter coat. Waterfalls become uniquely beautiful. When frozen, they appear as if locked in a moment of time, sparkling white pillars suspended as though under a magic spell.

Alberta is proud of a diverse range of winter

sports. Here, in addition to many skiing variations including heliskiing, you can enjoy ice climbing, ice sailing, dog sledding and canyon crawling. There's also a host of more traditional winter activities including snowmobiling, snowshoeing and ice skating, or try speed skating on the world's fastest rink, the Calgary Olympic Speed Skating Oval.

For further information about any of our winter activities please contact us at Travel Alberta. Our address and toll free number are on the coupon on page 34.

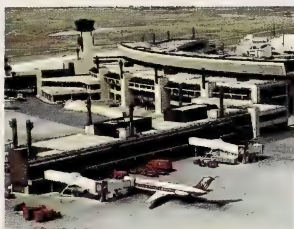


1. Sunshine Village
2. Marmot Basin
3. Nakiska
4. Lake Louise
5. Mount Norquay

HOW DO YOU GET TO ALBERTA?

PLANES

Alberta's two major cities, Edmonton and Calgary, each have modern international airports. Air service by Air Canada, Canadian Airlines International, America West, Continental, Delta, Northwest Orient, KLM, Lufthansa German Airlines, United, and Wardair.



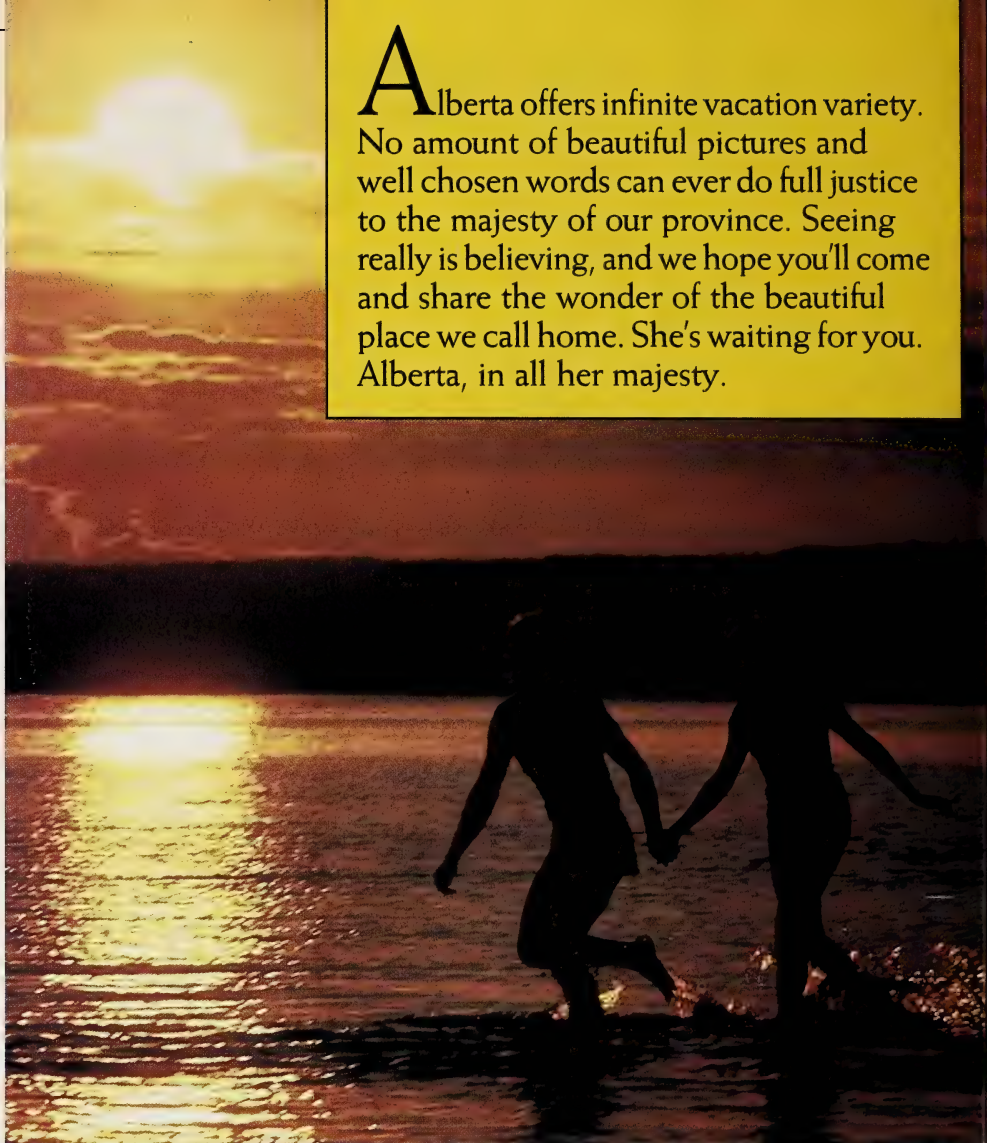
TRAINS

Alberta is also serviced by scheduled transcontinental railway service on VIA Rail Canada. In the U.S.A., VIA Rail can be booked through Amtrak.



HIGHWAY ACCESS

Alberta is accessible from the east and west via two trans Canada routes: highways No. 1 and No. 16 (Yellowhead). Many secondary routes also criss-cross the province. The gateway from the U.S.A. is via Montana, with border crossings at Waterton, Carway, Del Bonita, Coutts, Aden and Wild Horse. Contact any automobile club for road maps and routes.



Alberta offers infinite vacation variety. No amount of beautiful pictures and well chosen words can ever do full justice to the majesty of our province. Seeing really is believing, and we hope you'll come and share the wonder of the beautiful place we call home. She's waiting for you. Alberta, in all her majesty.



CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

Check with your travel agent or nearest Canadian Consulate to determine passport and visa requirements. Citizens or perma-



nent residents of the U.S.A. do not require passports or visas, but must provide proof of citizenship upon request. Persons under 18 should have a letter of authorization from a parent or guardian to travel into Canada.

INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION

Getting around once you're here is no problem either. All the major car and camper rental companies (Avis, Budget, Dollar, Hertz, Holiday, Sears and Tilden) are represented. It's easy to book ahead through your travel agent. Calgary and Edmonton have ultra-efficient public bus and light rail transportation services. Greyhound and other coach operators provide timetabled connections to outlying cities and places of interest.

during spring and summer, with moderate temperatures. The average summer minimum is 10 degrees Celsius (50F), the average maximum being 23 degrees Celsius (74F). Mountain areas are usually warm in



mid-summer, spring and fall. Nights in the mountains are cool in the spring and fall. Winter temperatures are milder in Alberta than most people expect. The average minimum temperature in January/February is -16 degrees Celsius (3F). Average winter maximums range from -1 degree Celsius (30F) to -10 degrees Celsius (15F).

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

In mid-summer, if you are going to spend some time in the mountains, bring a warm sweater or jacket. Otherwise, light summer clothing will be all you need. For spring and fall, you should have a light coat or warm jacket. You will need a heavy coat, gloves, and warm clothing, preferably worn in layers, during winter.

Sports equipment and personal goods can be brought into Alberta by having them declared at Canadian customs. If you plan to take Canadian purchases home with you, it is advisable to check on duty charges with appropriate authorities in your country.

ACCOMMODATION

Major hotel chains including Holiday Inn,

Delta, Westin, Four Seasons, CP Hotels, Courtyard Inns, and Sheraton are represented in Alberta. Plus there are countless independent hotel, inn and roadside motel operators offering hospitable accommodation to suit all tastes and budgets. Booking is easy through a travel agent or automobile club. Overnight rates in our major resorts start in the Cdn \$40 to Cdn \$50 range in the low season.

CURRENCY AND BANKING

The unit of currency is the Canadian dollar. Dollar bills come in 1, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 denominations and the dollar is divided into one hundred cents. The American dollar is worth \$1.25 to \$1.40 Canadian depending on the current rate of exchange. Banking hours are normally Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm. Travellers cheques and credit cards are accepted at banks and most commercial establishments.

TIME ZONE

Mountain Standard time.

SALES TAX

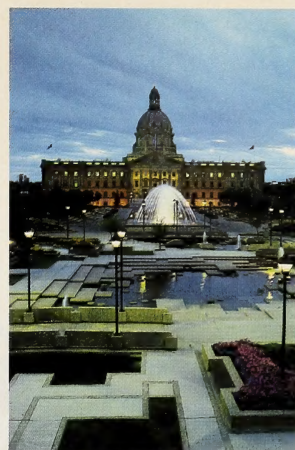
There is no sales tax in Alberta.

ELECTRICITY

Outlets and voltage (110-220 volts) are the same as the U.S.A. Visitors from other countries require adaptors for electrical appliances.

WILDLIFE

Please remember wildlife can be dangerous, and it is illegal to feed, entice or molest any wild animal in the province.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Should you require further assistance in planning your Alberta vacation, please do not hesitate to contact a Travel Alberta planning counsellor by calling toll free in Canada and continental USA:

1-800-661-8888

Or write:
Travel Alberta
Box 2500
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada
T5J 2Z4

There are also Alberta Government offices with tourism information in the following cities (please check your local telephone directory):

Canada: Calgary, Alberta. Ottawa, Ontario.

U.S.A.: Los Angeles, California. Houston, Texas. New York, New York.

Far East: Central Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Tokyo, Japan.

Europe: London, England.

Additional information can also be obtained by visiting any of over 130 Travel Information Centres located at entry points to Alberta, at major attractions, and major metropolitan centres. (See attached map.)

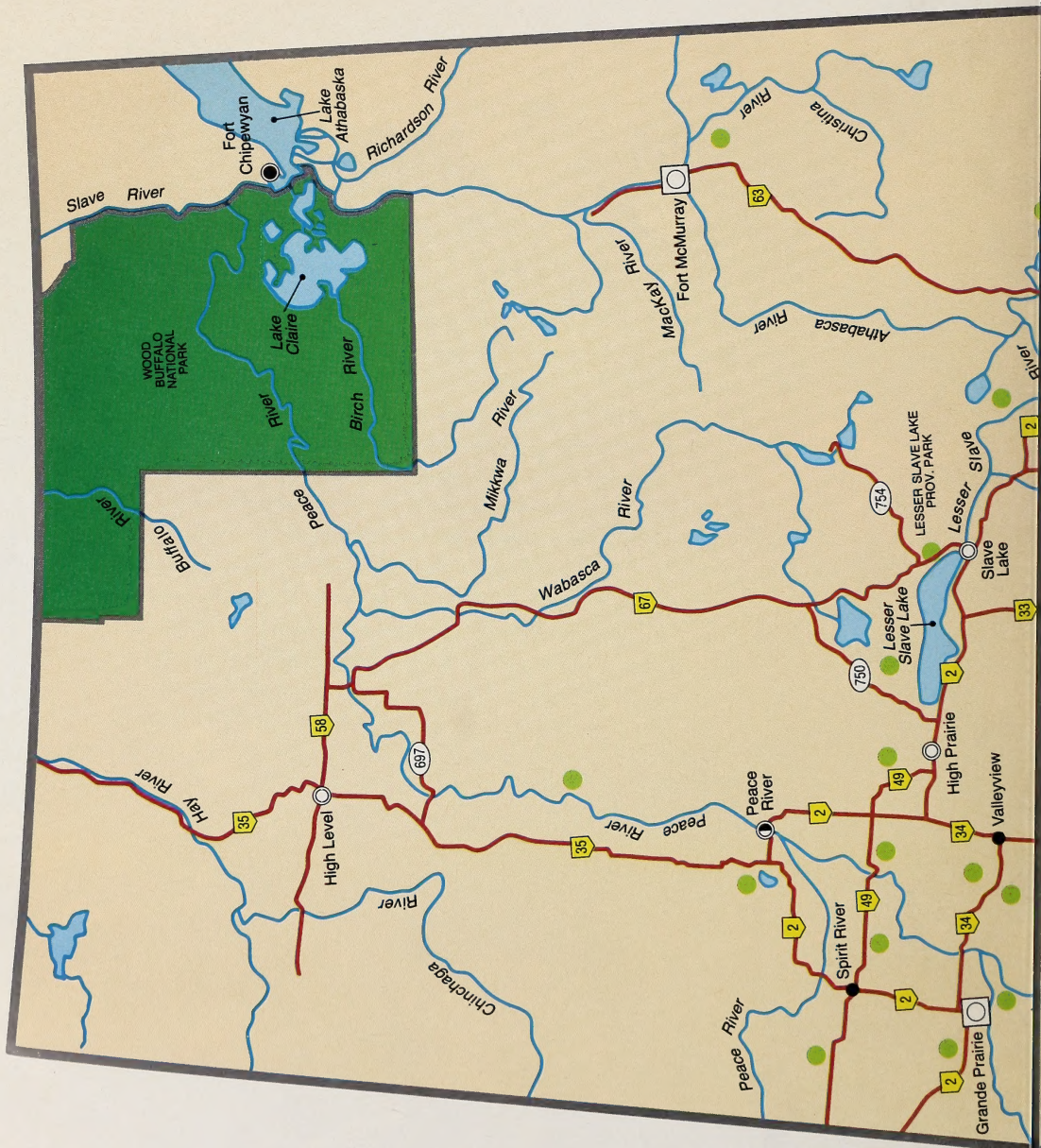
WHAT IS THE ALBERTA CLIMATE LIKE?

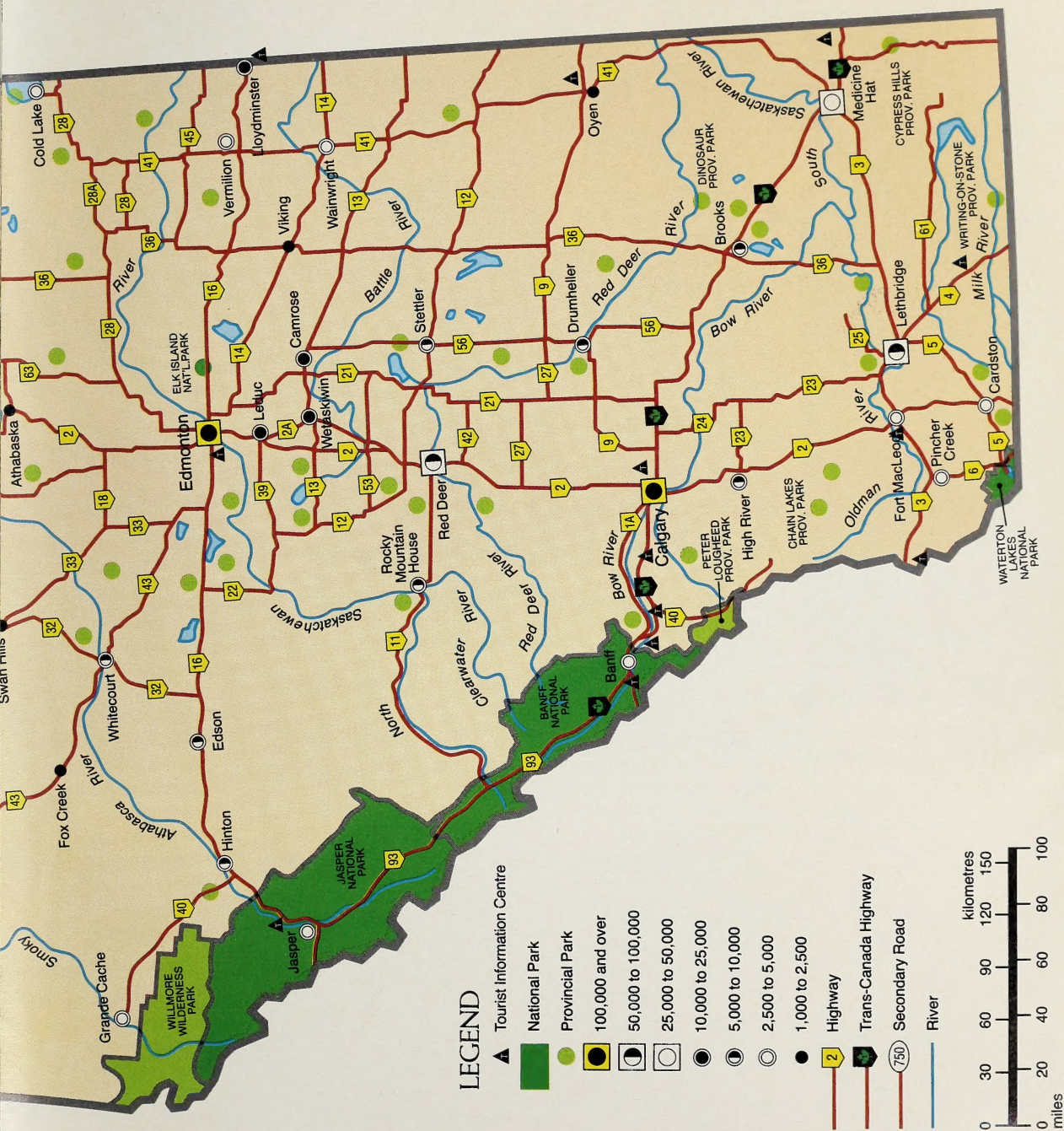
Southern Alberta has some very hot summer days. It is generally dry and sunny, claiming more hours of sunshine than any other province. In central and northern Alberta, rainfall is slightly more frequent



ALBERTA ROAD MAP

TOURIST
INFORMATION
CENTRES





Front Cover:
Moraine Lake This emerald-colored lake, surrounded by a panorama of ten glaciated peaks is one of Western Canada's most beautiful lakes. You will also see its picture on the back of the Canadian \$20 bill.

